

**Amendment to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of establishing a BGP mesh in a network, comprising:

receiving flooding BGP peering information flooded from a network device to at least one other network device, the BGP peering information comprising static configuration parameters;

the at least one other network device receiving the BGP peering information;  
and

analyzing automatically discovering the BGP peering information to identify at least one neighbor utilizing said received BGP peering information; and

automatically establishing a BGP peering session with said at least one neighbor to establish a BGP mesh.

Claim 2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the network device is a router or route reflector.

Claim 4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the BGP peering information comprises a BGP identifier.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the BGP peering information comprises a flooding protocol.

Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 6, wherein the flooding protocol is OSPF or ISIS.

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the BGP peering information comprises a flooding scope.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the BGP peering information comprises an autosynchronous system (AS) number or ~~confederation~~ confederation sub-AS number.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the BGP peering information comprises a force new peering flag and a new peering address.

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the BGP peering information comprises an originator flag.

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 11, wherein the BGP peering information comprises an address family identifier.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the BGP peering information comprises a route reflector flag.

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 13, wherein the BGP peering information comprises an address family identifier.

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 13, wherein the BGP peering information comprises a cluster identifier.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the BGP peering information comprises an old BGP identifier.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the BGP mesh is an iBGP mesh.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A network system that establishes a BGP mesh in a network, comprising:

a first network device flooding BGP peering information comprising static configuration parameters; and

at least one other network device that receives the BGP peering information, analyze automatically discovers the BGP peering information to identify at least one neighbor utilizing said received BGP peering information, and perform automatically establishes a BGP session with the at least one neighbor to establish a BGP mesh.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium encoded with a computer program-product that establishes a BGP mesh in a network, the computer program comprising:

computer code that configures a processor to receive-flood BGP peering information flooded from a network device ~~to at least one other network device, the BGP peering information comprising static configuration parameters;~~

~~computer code that configures a processor to receive the BGP peering information at the at least one other network device;~~

computer code that configures a processor to ~~analyze the BGP peering information to identify~~ automatically discover at least one neighbor utilizing said received BGP peering information; and

computer code that automatically establishes ~~performs~~ a BGP session with the at least one neighbor to establish a BGP mesh; ~~and~~

~~a computer-readable medium that stores the computer codes.~~

Claim 20 (currently amended): A network system that establishes a BGP mesh in a network, comprising:

a-means for receiving-flooding BGP peering information flooded from a network device ~~to at least one other network device, the BGP peering information comprising static configuration parameters;~~

~~a-means for receiving the BGP peering information at the at least one other network device;~~

a-means for ~~analyzing the BGP peering information to identify~~ automatically discovering at least one neighbor utilizing said received BGP peering information; and

a means for ~~performing~~ automatically establishing a BGP session with the at least one neighbor to establish a BGP mesh.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A method of establishing a BGP mesh in a network, comprising:

receiving BGP peering information from a network device;

analyzing the BGP peering information to identify at least one neighbor; ~~and~~

performing a BGP session with the at least one neighbor to establish a BGP mesh; and flooding the received BGP peering information at least one other network device.

Claim 22 (canceled).

Claim 23 (currently amended): A network system that establishes a BGP mesh in a network, comprising:

a first network device that receives BGP peering information, analyzes the BGP peering information to identify at least one neighbor, performs a BGP session with the at least one neighbor to establish a BGP mesh, and floods the BGP peering information; and

~~as a~~ a second network device that receives the BGP peering information from the first network device.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium encoded with a computer program-product that establishes a BGP mesh in a network, the computer program comprising:

computer code that receives BGP peering information;

computer code that analyzes the BGP peering information to identify at least one neighbor;

computer code that performs a BGP session with the at least one neighbor to establish a BGP mesh; and

computer code that floods the BGP peering information

~~;~~ and

~~a computer-readable medium that stores the computer codes.~~

Claim 25 (currently amended): A network system that establishes a BGP mesh in a network, comprising:

~~a~~-means for receiving BGP peering information;

~~a~~-means for analyzing the BGP peering information to identify at least one neighbor;

~~a~~-means for performing a BGP session with the at least one neighbor to establish a BGP mesh; and

~~a~~-means for flooding the received BGP peering information.

Claim 26 (currently amended): A method of establishing an iBGP mesh in a network, comprising:

receiving flooding iBGP peering information flooded from a network device to at least one other network device, the BGP peering information comprising static configuration parameters;

~~the at least one other network device receiving the iBGP peering information;~~

analyzing automatically discovering the iBGP peering information to identify at least one neighbor utilizing said received BGP peering information; and

automatically establishing performing an iBGP session with the at least one neighbor to establish an iBGP mesh.

Claim 27 (currently amended): A network system that establishes an iBGP mesh in a network, comprising:

a first network device flooding iBGP peering information comprising static configuration parameters; and

at least one other network device that receives the iBGP peering information, ~~analyze the iBGP peering information to identify~~ automatically discovers at least one neighbor utilizing said received BGP peering information, and perform automatically establishes an iBGP session with the at least one neighbor to establish an iBGP mesh.

Claim 28 (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium encoded with a computer program-product that establishes an iBGP mesh in a network, the computer program comprising:

~~computer code that configures a processor to flood iBGP peering information from a network device to at least one other network device;~~

computer code that configures a processor to receive the iBGP peering information flooded from a network device, the iBGP peering information comprising static configuration parameters ~~at the at least one other network device;~~

computer code that configures a processor to automatically discover ~~analyze~~ the iBGP peering information to identify at least one neighbor utilizing said received BGP peering information; and

computer code that automatically establishes ~~performs~~ an iBGP session with the at least one neighbor to establish an iBGP mesh; ~~and~~

~~a computer-readable medium that stores the computer codes.~~

Claim 29 (currently amended): A network system that establishes an iBGP mesh in a network, comprising:

~~a means for flooding iBGP peering information from a network device to at least one other network device;~~

a means for receiving the iBGP peering information flooded from ~~at the at least one other~~ a network device, the iBGP peering information comprising static configuration parameters;

a means for automatically discovering ~~analyzing~~ the iBGP peering information to identify at least one neighbor utilizing said received BGP peering information; and

a means for automatically establishing ~~performing~~ an iBGP session with the at least one neighbor to establish an iBGP mesh.